

REMARKS

This amendment is offered in response to the Office Action of September 20, 2001 (restarted from August 28, 2001).

The Examiner has rejected Claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by the Laguerre reference (U.S. Patent No. 3,701,192) or the Hugues reference (U.S. Patent No. 4,581,006). Similarly, the Examiner has rejected Claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by the Thomas reference (U.S. patent No. 5,788,378) or the Richardson reference (U.S. Patent No. 5,283,932). Additionally, the Examiner has rejected Claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over the Stolmeier reference (U.S. Patent No. 5,564,259) in view of the Thieman reference (U.S. Patent No. 5,956,924) or the Laguerre reference (U.S. Patent No. 3,701,192).

With respect to the Laguerre and Hugues references, the Examiner states that the "claimed 'packages' are read on the bag web of the references that will make up the plurality of packages". The Applicant has amended Claim 6 to state that the packages are provided in a series and that they contain "consumer product". This distinguishes over the mere supplying of the web prior to package formation as disclosed in the Laguerre and Hugues references. Likewise, there is nothing in

the Thomas or Richardson references which discloses the insertion of a slider onto the zipper of a container which includes consumer product. There is likewise nothing in the Laguerre, Hugues or Stolmeier references which would suggest providing a series of packages, and for each of the packages, performing the removing and inserting steps as recited in the claims.

For all of the reasons above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are in immediate condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw his rejections of the claims, to allow the claims, and to pass this application to early issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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